DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 418 308 CE 076 251

AUTHOR	Rumble, Greville
TITLE	The Costs and Economies of Open and Distance Learning.
ISBN	ISBN-0-7494-1519-3
PUB DATE	1997-00-00
NOTE	224p.; Open and Distance Learning Series.
AVAILABLE FROM	Kogan Page, 120 Pentonville Road, London N1 9JN, England.
PUB TYPE	Books (010)
EDRS PRICE	Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS	Adult Education; Budgets; *Cost Effectiveness; *Cost Estimates; Curriculum Design; *Distance Education; Educational Demand; *Educational Economics; Educational Finance; Educational Media; Educational Technology; Estimation (Mathematics); Financial Support; Foreign Countries; Measurement Techniques; *Open Education; Postsecondary Education; *Program Costs
IDENTIFIERS	*United Kingdom

ABSTRACT

This book is designed to give planners of open and distance learning programs the technical information needed to determine the cost of programs and analyze the behavior of costs. The following are among the topics discussed: budgets; classification of resources (human resources, premises and accommodation, and equipment and furniture); a basic framework for analyzing revenue costs (cost; direct costs, indirect costs, and overheads; fixed, variable, and semivariable costs; cost drivers; variable costs, linearity, and economies of scale; and committed and managed costs); volume and its relationship with fixed and variable costs; treatment of capital costs (depreciation, social discount rate, annualization factor, and investment in course materials); overheads (direct and indirect costs and their relationship to products and services, traditional management accounting, activity-based costing, and identification of cost objects); attribution of costs to joint products; the activity of costing; course design (production rates and reduction of labor costs); media; student support; cost-efficiency (technical issues in drawing comparisons, development of a common methodology for economic studies of distance education, and cost-efficiency of mixed-mode systems); cost-effectiveness (measurement and evidence of cost-effectiveness); cost-benefit analysis (private and social rates of return from distance and open learning); and costs, prices, demand, and funding (prices, demand, and what students can afford). The bibliography contains 188 references. (MN)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****